

Amendment dated June 6, 2006

Reply to Office Action of March 6, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 14-18, 20-24 are now present in the application. Claim 19 is now cancelled and claims 23 and 24 consist of a new independent claim and a claim dependent therefrom. Original claims 1-13 are presently withdrawn as a result of the restriction requirement in the election of Group III, claims 14-22 made pursuant to the telephone conversation with the Examiner on February 23, 2006.

With respect to claim rejections, claims 14-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Appropriate amendments are now made to claims 14, 15 and 16 to overcome the Section 112 rejection. The Examiner is, therefore, requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,847,326 to *Kawakami et al.* in view of U.S. Patent 6,041,496 to *Haq et al.*

Claims 16, 19 and 22 were noted to be directed to allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Noting that the specification at page 4 paragraph [0016] states that "The stack of ceramic layers 12 are cofired at a first, cofiring temperature of about 850°C (as now amended) to complete densification and adhesion of metallization." Noting further that at page 6, paragraph [0023], that "If no further bases are to be formed, the module is given a final firing at an elevated temperature to fully sinter all applied metal layers. This elevated temperature may vary depending on the specific ceramic material used but would generally be in the range of about 800°C to 850°C (the cofiring temperature)". Thus, it may be said that the firing including one or more bases at an elevated

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temperature greater than the second temperature substantially equivalent to the first cofired temperature is in the range of around 800°C to 850°C (the cofiring temperature) as set forth in paragraph [0023].

Accordingly, claims 14, 15 and 16 are amended to include the limitations set forth in dependent claim 19 which states "firing said module at said elevated temperature equivalent to said first, cofired temperature". Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14, 15 and 16 are in condition for allowance. claims 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22 become allowable by virtue of their ultimate dependency from independent claim 14.

Noting that original claim 22 was noted to be allowable by virtue of the step of "applying an electrical connector member, as said third component to said third base", new independent claim 23 is submitted so as to include three bases for respectively receiving a frame member, a heat sink member, and an electrical connector member.

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claim 23 is in condition for allowance along with newly submitted dependent claim 24, which is dependent therefrom and comprises a claim wherein the first cofired temperature is recited as being in the range from about 800°C to around 850°C, the second temperature is around 650°C and the elevated temperature is in the range of the first cofired temperature.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims now present in the application are deemed to be in condition for allowance and therefore further and favorable action is requested.

Conclusion

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited

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to contact the undersigned attorney, William L. Gates, (Reg. No. 20,848) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment from or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, the extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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